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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

16 ORACLE AMERICA, INC.,
17
18 Plaintiff,
19 v.
20 GOOGLE INC.,
21 Defendant.

Case No. 3:10-cv-03561-WHA

**DEFENDANT GOOGLE INC.'S NOTICE
OF MOTION AND MOTION FOR
SUMMARY JUDGMENT ON COUNT
VIII OF PLAINTIFF ORACLE
AMERICA'S AMENDED COMPLAINT**

Judge: Hon. William Alsup

Hearing: 2:00 p.m., September 15, 2011

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NOTICE OF MOTION AND STATEMENT OF RELIEF SOUGHT

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that on September 15, 2011, at 2:00 p.m., or at such other time as the Court may direct, before the Honorable William Alsup, United States District Court, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California 94102, Defendant Google Inc. (“Google”) will, and hereby does, move the Court for entry of summary judgment on Count VIII of the Amended Complaint filed by Plaintiff Oracle America, Inc. (“Oracle”).

This Motion is based on this Notice of Motion and Motion, the Memorandum of Points and Authorities below, the Declarations of Daniel Bornstein, Owen Astrachan and Michael S. Kwun that are being filed herewith, and such other and further papers, evidence and argument as may be submitted to the Court in connection with the hearing on this motion.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. INTRODUCTION

In 1994, the Chief Technology Officer (“CTO”) of Sun Microsystems (“Sun”)¹ offered the following testimony to Congress: “With respect to intellectual property rights, Sun strongly believes in—and will defend—the rights of intellectual property owners to maximize their returns on product implementations. At the same time, we believe that *interface specifications are not protectable under copyright.*”²

Yet Oracle’s copyright claim rests almost entirely on the use of the interface specifications (specifications for application programming interfaces, or APIs) in thirty-seven³ Java language API packages in Android. Those specifications are “functional requirements for compatibility . . . that are not protected by copyright.” *See Sega Enters. Ltd. v. Accolade, Inc.*,

¹ Sun is Oracle’s predecessor in interest.

² Declaration of Michael S. Kwun, Ex. G at 2 (emphasis added). The cited exhibit includes the entirety of the 1994 prepared testimony of Dr. Eric Schmidt, testifying in his capacity as Sun’s CTO.

³ In February, arguing that a motion for summary judgment would be premature, Oracle said it expected discovery would reveal further instances of alleged copying other than those of which it was then aware. *See* Kwun Decl, Ex. N at 1. Today, more than six months later, the only thing that has changed is that the number of API packages on which Oracle bases its infringement claim has *declined* from fifty-one, *see id.*, Ex. O at 7:4-9:1, to thirty-seven, *see id.*, Ex. C at 10:1-11:9.

977 F.2d 1510, 1522 (9th Cir. 1992) (citing 17 U.S.C. § 102(b)). They define how programmers interact with the Android platform, much as the menus in a computer program define how users interact with the program. And just as menus in a computer program are not protected by copyright, *see Lotus Dev. Corp. v. Borland Int'l, Inc.*, 49 F.3d 807, 815 (1st Cir. 1995), *aff'd by an equally divided court*, 516 U.S. 233 (1996), API specifications are not copyrightable. What the specifications *do not* do is define how the Android platform actually does the things it does, just as the “print” menu option in a computer program is different from the code that actually causes the program to print a document.

That the Java language API *specifications* are not themselves copyrightable presents a pure question of law. As Sun’s CTO explained in 1994, “The interface, as an element necessary for interoperability, falls into the category of ideas which the copyright law seeks to disseminate to promote the public good. This in no way curtails the protectability of the code itself.”⁴

Aside from the Java language API specifications, Oracle’s copyright claim is based on minimal alleged copying, concerning only 12 files out of over 50 *thousand* in Android, and material of no qualitative significance. A reasonable jury could only conclude that any such similarities are *de minimis* and thus not actionable. Google is therefore entitled to summary judgment on the entirety of Oracle’s copyright claim.

II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

A. A brief history of Java and Android.

1. The Java language and the Java platform.

Oracle uses “Java platform” to mean a variety of interchangeable and overlapping elements. These elements purportedly include the Java programming language itself, an “object-oriented” programming language that uses syntax heavily based on prior languages such as the “C” and “C++” programming languages. Declaration of Owen Astrachan, Ex. 1 ¶ 18. However, “it is undisputed that the Java programming language is in the public domain and anyone was free to use it without charge, as Android does.” Kwun Decl., Ex. F (July 22, 2011 Order) at 2;

⁴ Kwun Decl., Ex. G at 2.

1 *see also id.*, Ex. E (Feb. 9, 2011 Hearing Tr.) at 8:17-18 (“[W]e’re not asserting that we own [the
2 Java] programming language for purposes of this case.”). Also included in the elements of the
3 Java platform are a program known as a “compiler” that creates the “bytecode” in which Java
4 programs are executed; a virtual machine that executes the bytecode; and a set of core libraries
5 that facilitates the development of applications for the Java platform by providing basic system
6 or language functionalities. Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶ 18.

7 Today, Java is a popular programming language, and many Internet and mobile
8 applications are written in the Java language. *Id.* Indeed, Oracle claims that Java has attracted
9 6.5 million software developers, who must be familiar with, and accustomed to, the naming
10 conventions and functionalities of the basic Java language to develop their programs. *See* Kwun
11 Decl., Ex. A (Am. Compl.) ¶ 9.

12 The Java programming language was designed to use a grammar and syntax that was
13 similar to those of other well-known, existing languages, such as C and C++. Astrachan Decl.,
14 Ex. 1 ¶ 124. Reusing C and/or C++ grammar and syntax allowed Sun to leverage the existing
15 knowledge of programmers at the time the Java programming language was developed. *Id.* As
16 the primary creator of the Java language has acknowledged, “Java feels very familiar to many
17 different programmers because Sun had a very strong tendency to prefer things that had been
18 used a lot over things that just sounded like a good idea.” *Id.*, Ex. 1 ¶ 124 & Ex. 2 at 53.

19 Like any high-level programming language, the Java programming language contains
20 many rules of grammar and syntax that generally cannot be varied. *Id.*, Ex. 1 ¶ 19. For example,
21 a statement adding two numbers can only be written in certain ways, and the language requires
22 specific and precise keywords to express such things as variable types (integers, strings, or
23 booleans) and more complex object types such as dates or database queries. *Id.* Even the
24 capitalization of identifiers in the Java programming language is subject to language
25 requirements and best practices. *Id.* ¶ 113. In addition, the Java language, like many
26 programming languages, employs keywords and operators (such as plus and minus symbols) that
27 can only be used for specific purposes and in specific ways; using them for other purposes will
28 cause a program to fail to function correctly. *Id.* ¶ 19. Much of the structure and appearance of

code written in the Java programming language is therefore *dictated by functional considerations*. *Id.*

2. The Android platform.

The Android platform is a freely-distributed, open-source software stack for mobile devices that includes an operating system, middleware and key mobile applications. Declaration of Daniel Bornstein ¶ 2. In the early days of its development, Android, Inc. and then Google (which purchased Android, Inc. in 2005) pursued numerous possibilities for developing the platform, including a technology partnership with Sun (incorporating Sun’s implementation of its virtual machine and Java language libraries into the platform), as well as developing Android from the ground up. *Id.* When the partnership negotiations failed, Google decided to concentrate fully on the ground up solution, using only new materials and publicly-available open-source materials. *Id.*

Android was built to be a truly “open” platform. Android is made available under permissive open source license terms, primarily the Apache License, Version 2.0. *Id.* ¶ 3.⁵ The information and source code for the Android platform are freely available for developers, manufacturers, or any member of the general public to download at <http://source.android.com> and <http://developer.android.com>. *Id.* The software development kit (“SDK”) for the Android platform was first publicly released by Google in 2007. *Id.*

Android provides access to a wide range of useful libraries and tools that can be used to build rich mobile applications by interfacing with hardware that is typically not available on desktop platforms. *Id.* ¶ 4. For example, Android enables developers to obtain the location of the mobile device using the phone’s built-in GPS technology, or to create photography applications using the built-in camera. *Id.* Developers for Android can create software applications for Android-based mobile devices using various programming languages, including the Java programming language. *Id.* Other languages supported by Android include C, C++, and JavaScript, among others. *Id.*

⁵ See generally Andrew Sinclair, *License Profile: Apache License, Version 2.0*, 2 INT’L FREE & OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE L. REV. 107 (2010) (discussing Apache License, Version 2.0).

1 Android contains over 50 thousand files and over 11 million lines of code, and is built on
 2 an underlying Linux kernel. *Id.* ¶ 5 The Linux kernel is an open source operating system kernel
 3 that communicates directly with the hardware device and manages core functions and
 4 communications (such as those relating to memory management, process management and
 5 hardware drivers) between the applications and the device. *Id.* ¶ 5 & Ex. A (diagram illustrating
 6 the major components of the Android platform).

7 The Android platform includes, among other things, the Android SDK and the Dalvik
 8 Virtual Machine (“VM”). *Id.* ¶ 6. The Android SDK is a comprehensive set of development
 9 tools provided to software developers who wish to create applications for Android devices. *Id.*
 10 The Dalvik VM is a new intermediate software layer, created by Google, that allows programs,
 11 including those written in the Java programming language, to run on the Android platform. *Id.*
 12 The Dalvik VM and Android platform accomplish this function in part by using a collection of
 13 168 libraries (also referred to as “packages”) referred to as the “Android Core Libraries.” *Id.*

14 Some of the Android Core Libraries incorporate and were in part derived from Java
 15 language API libraries from Apache Harmony (“Harmony” or the “Harmony Project”). *Id.* ¶ 7.
 16 The Harmony Project, founded in May 2005, is an open source project that includes libraries
 17 written to be interoperable with the Java language APIs included in the Java 2 Standard Edition
 18 platform. *See* Kwun Decl., Exs. H at 2 & I at 1. Harmony, which predates Android, was
 19 developed by the non-profit Apache Software Foundation. The Harmony Project took steps from
 20 its creation to ensure that Sun’s (now Oracle’s) intellectual property was respected, calling the
 21 issue “very important” in the project’s initial announcement and detailing three separate
 22 mechanisms by which the project would ensure respect of Sun’s rights. *See id.*, Ex. J at 3 (text
 23 under the heading “How will you ensure that the intellectual property of Sun and others is
 24 respected?”). To the best of Google’s knowledge, neither Sun nor Oracle has ever accused the
 25 Apache Software Foundation or its libraries of infringing any of Oracle’s copyrights.⁶

26 As part of the early development work on Android, Google retained an independent
 27

28 ⁶ Harmony was not the first open source implementation of common Java language APIs. An earlier effort, now called GNU Classpath, was launched in 1998. *See id.*, Ex. K at 2.

1 contractor to develop certain Android Core Libraries. Bornstein Decl. ¶ 8. Google informed the
 2 contractor that it was interested in interoperability with version 1.5 (now known as version 5.0)
 3 of the Java 2 Standard Edition platform. *Id.* In other words, Google—like Apache—was
 4 interested in maximizing compatibility with the Java programming language. The contractor
 5 was retained and instructed to write new code, reuse and improve original code created by
 6 Google, or import and improve code from permissively licensed (or equivalent) open source
 7 projects, such as the Harmony Project—but not from any proprietary materials, including Sun
 8 materials. *Id.*

9 **B. APIs define how pieces of software can interact with each other.**

10 An API allows one piece of software to call on another piece of software to perform a
 11 function; in other words, it is a method or means through which two computer programs or
 12 portions of programs are able to interact and communicate with each other. Astrachan Decl.,
 13 Ex. 1 ¶ 24; *see also id.* ¶¶ 26-35. An API is typically defined in a written document known as a
 14 “specification,” which describes the API and its function and explains how the API is to be
 15 implemented in code. *Id.* ¶ 55. The specification gives the name of the API, the required inputs
 16 for the API, the expected results of invoking the API, and the requirements that the code
 17 implementing the API (including any associated files or libraries needed for the API to execute
 18 properly) must meet in order to carry out the purpose of the API correctly. *Id.* The
 19 specifications for the thirty-seven Java language API packages at issue were published or made
 20 available in various forms, including in books and on the Java website, starting in 1996. *Id.* ¶ 20.

21 Much like many prior programming languages, Java language APIs also typically include
 22 subparts or files known as “classes” and, within classes, “methods.” *Id.* ¶¶ 36-38, 48. Each of
 23 the Java language API packages at issue is a grouping of classes, which themselves are
 24 groupings of methods. *Id.* ¶ 48. The source code for the APIs for the Java programming
 25 language typically includes text known as “comments”; comments do not affect the compiled
 26 code but, instead, may document what the code does. *See id.* ¶¶ 58, 171. For example, the
 27 comments may describe to the programmer the function and rules for using the API. *Id.* ¶ 58.
 28 For Java, the reference materials used by programmers (typically referred to as the API’s

“documentation”) is machine-generated automatically from these comments. *See id.*

C. An example: How to calculate an absolute value in Java.

One of the API packages that Oracle accuses Google of infringing is the “java.lang” package. Kwun Decl. Ex. C at 10:4. According to Oracle’s documentation, this package “[p]rovides classes that are fundamental to the design of the Java programming language.” Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶ 39. One of those “fundamental” classes is the “Math” class, which “contains methods for performing basic numeric operations such as the elementary exponential, logarithm, square root, and trigonometric functions.” *Id.* One such method defined in the Math class is the “abs” method, which is used to calculate the absolute value for a given number. *Id.*

The “integer” version of the abs method⁷ has the “declaration”⁸ “public static int abs (int i).” *Id.* ¶ 57. The declaration identifies the method and uses the name of the method set forth in the specification. *Id.* ¶¶ 40-46. The “int i” in the parentheses means that the abs method accepts one “argument” as an input, and the input is an integer (“int” is short for “integer”). *Id.* ¶ 47. The “static int” before the “abs” in the declaration means that this version of the abs method returns an integer. *Id.* A programmer who wants to calculate the absolute value of, for example, -25 would thus include the text “abs(-25)” in his or her program. *Id.* ¶ 37.

The Android code for the “abs” method discussed above is in the Android file Math.java. *Id.* ¶ 57 n.2. The portion of this file relevant to the abs method is:

```
package java.lang;
. . .
/**
 * Returns the absolute value of the argument.
 * <p>
 * If the argument is {@code Integer.MIN_VALUE}, {@code
Integer.MIN_VALUE}
 * is returned.
 *
 * @param i
 *         the value whose absolute value has to be computed.
 * @return the argument if it is positive, otherwise the negation
```

⁷ *See id.* ¶ 36 (explaining what a “method” is). There are three versions of the abs method, which are used for calculating the absolute value of integers, floating point numbers (such as 1.23), and double precision floating point numbers.

⁸ *See id.* ¶¶ 40-46 (explaining what a method “declaration” is).

```

1      of the
2          *           argument.
3          */
4      public static int abs(int i) {
5          return i >= 0 ? i : -i;
6      }

```

Id. ¶ 57. The first line, “package java.lang,” means that this file is part of the “java.lang” package. *Id.* This is the name of the package of classes in which this file resides. *Id.* The text beside the asterisks in each line are comments embedded in the code (shown in blue) that explain this method to programmers, which (as discussed above) in turn are used to automatically generate the “documentation” for the method. *Id.* ¶ 58. The line “public static int abs(int i)” and the lines beneath it repeat the declaration of the “abs” method (shown in green) and then present the program logic for the method (shown in red). *Id.* ¶ 59.

In this example, the actual *program logic* of the method—the code that actually calculates the absolute value—is the text “return i >= 0 ? i : -i;”, which effectively says, “if the number we are given is greater than or equal to 0, return that number, and otherwise return that number but with the opposite sign.” *Id.* Because the absolute value operation is relatively simple, very little program logic is needed for this method. *Id.* For more complicated methods, many lines of program logic may be needed. *Id.* Everything *other* than this program logic describes what the method is called, how a programmer can invoke it, what the method does, and what the method will return when it is completed. The program logic for the method, in contrast, is the code that actually tells the computer *how* to perform the method (in this case, how to calculate the absolute value of an integer).

The “abs” method declaration is the same not only in Java and Android, but also in the two major open source Java language projects—Apache Harmony and GNU Classpath. *Id.* ¶ 61. All four use identical method declarations:

Java:	public static int abs(int a)
Harmony:	public static int abs(int i)
GNU Classpath:	public static int abs(int i)
Android:	public static int abs(int i)

Id. In addition, both Apache Harmony and GNU Classpath have implemented the Java language API packages that are the subject of Oracle’s infringement claim against Google. *Id.* In each case, the names of the packages and methods are the same. *Id.*

D. Oracle’s copyright infringement claim.

In its interrogatory answers, Oracle has set forth the basis for its claim of copyright infringement. *See* Kwun Decl., Ex. C (relevant excerpts from Oracle’s Supplemental Responses to Google’s First Set of Interrogatories, served on July 29, 2011). Oracle alleges in its Responses that the *specifications* for thirty-seven Android Java language API packages (the “Accused Packages”) “are unauthorized derivative work” and are “derived from or substantially similar to” the corresponding Java language API specifications contained in the Oracle’s asserted works.⁹ *See id.* at 9:15-11:9. Oracle points to no specific code in the API packages that it claims to have been copied from Oracle code; rather, it asserts that Google has infringed by including in Android implementations of APIs that provide compatibility for applications written in the standard Java programming language. *See id.* at 11:10-14. Indeed, Oracle’s illustrative exhibits that purportedly show the infringement do not include *any* of the program logic for any of the methods. *See* Kwun Decl., Ex. D (exhibits to Oracle’s Responses).

Although Oracle also claims that the Android code that *implements* those specifications is an “unauthorized derivative work,” Kwun Decl. Ex. C at 11:16, when it comes to the actual material that allegedly was copied, Oracle again points only to its *specifications*. *Id.* at 12:22-24 (“For example, Google makes and distributes `dalvik\vm\native\java_lang_Class.c`, which is based on Oracle’s `java.lang.Class` specification”).¹⁰

⁹ Oracle’s Amended Complaint pleads only two copyright registrations. *See* Kwun Decl., Exs. A (Am. Compl.) ¶ 11 & B (Am. Compl., Ex. H). Those registrations correspond to “Java 2 Standard Edition 1.4” and “Java 2 Standard Edition, Version 5.0.” These two works are referred to as the “Asserted Works.” Oracle also referred to additional copyright registrations in an interrogatory response, *see* Kwun Decl., Ex. C at 9:11-13, but has not sought to further amend its complaint beyond the Asserted Works. That said, nothing in Oracle’s interrogatory responses suggests that the analysis of its copyright claim would change based on these additional works.

¹⁰ Essentially the same text, again without references to anything beyond alleged similarities in the *specifications* for the APIs, appears in Oracle’s response to Google’s interrogatory seeking identification of the specific material that Oracle alleges was copied from the Asserted Works. *See* Kwun Decl., Ex. C at 20:5-22:25.

1 The only allegations of literal code copying specifically identified by Oracle relate to 12
 2 specific files (the “Accused Files”)¹¹—out of more than 50 *thousand* files in Android—that
 3 contain portions that Oracle alleges are similar to Oracle code. *See id.* at 13:26-14:27. This
 4 group of files, in the aggregate, comprises far less than one percent of Android, whether analyzed
 5 in terms of the number of files or the number of lines of code. Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶ 150.
 6 These twelve files also amount to far less than one percent of the Asserted Works. *Id.*

7 Eight of the twelve files identified by Oracle,¹² moreover, came from a Google
 8 contractor, and are “test files” for the purpose of verifying that certain aspects of the
 9 corresponding program file worked correctly. Bornstein Decl. ¶ 8. These files do not have any
 10 effect on the code that ships on Android devices, and there is no reason that these files would
 11 ever be present on Android devices. *Id.* In fact, after this lawsuit was filed, Google removed
 12 these unnecessary files from the Android platform, and has not replaced them with new files. *Id.*

13 The other four files include minimal text similar to text in Oracle materials. The only
 14 allegedly copied text in two of those files¹³—files that Google received from the same
 15 independent contractor that provided it with the eight files just discussed, *id.* ¶ 9—is in twenty
 16 “comments,” i.e. text that documents the code rather than operative code itself. Astrachan Decl.,
 17 Ex. 1 ¶ 170. Those unnecessary comments have also been removed from the Android files.
 18 Bornstein Decl. ¶ 9.¹⁴ The final two files¹⁵ each include only nine (out of several hundred) lines

19
 20 ¹¹ In its response to a Google interrogatory (Interrogatory No. 2), Oracle has specifically
 21 identified the twelve files that it contends contain code copied from Oracle code. *See id.* at
 22 13:26-14:27. In response to a further interrogatory (Interrogatory No. 5) seeking the specific
 copied code, Oracle has steadfastly refused to identify the specific code that it contends was
 copied, instead only repeating essentially the same general statements contained in its response
 to the other interrogatory. *See id.* at 20:5-25:10.

23 ¹² In Oracle’s Responses, these files: AclEntryImpl.java; AclImpl.java; GroupImpl.java;
 24 OwnerImpl.java; PermissionImpl.java; PrincipalImpl.java; PolicyNodeImpl.java; and
 AclEnumerator.java. *See* Kwun Decl., Ex. C at 14:1-17.

25 ¹³ In Oracle’s Responses, these files: CodeSourceTest.java; and
 CollectionCertStoreParametersTest.java. *See* Kwun Decl., Ex. C at 14:22-27.

26 ¹⁴ These files were appear to drive from Apache Harmony files, and the allegedly “copied”
 27 comments were apparently added to the Apache Harmony files by Intel in 2006. Astrachan
 Decl. ¶¶ 174-75. Google received these files from a contractor. Bornstein Decl. ¶ 9.

28 ¹⁵ In Oracle’s Responses, these files: TimSort.java; and ComparableTimSort.java. *See*
 Kwun Decl., Ex. C at 14:18-21.

1 that appear to be the same as lines in the Oracle materials. Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶ 152. Those
 2 nine lines (which are the same in both of the Android files) implement a mundane utility
 3 function. *Id.* ¶¶ 153-56.

4 III. ARGUMENT

5 A. Because Oracle cannot establish that Google copied *protected* elements of the Java 6 language API specifications, the Android APIs are not substantially similar to Oracle's Java language API specifications.

7 To establish copyright infringement, a plaintiff must prove ownership of the copyrighted
 8 work and that the defendant copied *protected* elements of the work. *Jada Toys, Inc. v. Mattel,*
 9 *Inc.*, 518 F.3d 628, 636 (9th Cir. 2008). “The mere fact that a work is copyrighted does not
 10 mean that every element of the work may be protected.” *Feist Publ'ns, Inc. v. Rural Tel. Serv.*
 11 *Co.*, 499 U.S. 340, 348 (1991). Ordinarily, to prove copying, a plaintiff must show that
 12 defendant “had access to the copyrighted work and that the protected portions of the works are
 13 substantially similar.” *Jada Toys*, 518 F.3d at 636-37.

14 Copyright protects only the expression of an idea, not the idea itself. 17 U.S.C. § 102(b).
 15 Where the similarities between a plaintiff's and defendant's works are limited to “ideas and
 16 general concepts,” there is no infringement. *Data East USA, Inc. v. Epyx, Inc.*, 862 F.2d 204,
 17 208 (9th Cir. 1988). Substantial similarity cannot be based on expression where an idea and its
 18 expression are inseparable, or where that expression is “as a practical matter, indispensable or at
 19 least standard in the treatment of a given [idea].” *Id.* (quotation marks and citations omitted). To
 20 avoid an improper finding of infringement based on unprotectable expression, Ninth Circuit law
 21 calls for an “analytic dissection” of similarities. *Id.* Where all similarities in expression arise
 22 from unprotectable elements, there is no substantial similarity, and thus no infringement. *Id.*
 23 Analytic dissection to determine the proper scope of a copyright is a question of law. *See Apple*
 24 *Computer, Inc. v. Microsoft Corp.*, 35 F.3d 1435, 1443 (9th Cir. 1994) (“Using analytic
 25 dissection, and, if necessary, expert testimony, *the court* must determine whether any of the
 26 allegedly similar features are protected by copyright” (emphasis added)).

27 As explained below, the only similarities between the Accused Packages and the Java
 28 language API packages lie in the specifications for those APIs. But similarities in only

“functional specifications,” as opposed to the program logic that performs the steps required by those specifications, are not copyright infringement. *See Sega Enterprises Ltd. v. Accolade, Inc.*, 977 F.2d 1510, 1526 (9th Cir. 1992). Moreover, where, as here, “the range of protectable and unauthorized expression is [at most] narrow, the appropriate standard for illicit copying is virtual identity.” *Apple*, 35 F.3d at 1439. Because Oracle cannot show that the Android platform is virtually identical to the Asserted Works (or, indeed, even substantially similar), Google is entitled to summary judgment that the Accused Packages do not infringe the Asserted Works.

1. The only elements common to Oracle’s Java language APIs and the Android APIs are unprotectable methods of operation.

As long ago as 1879, the Supreme Court made clear that publication of a book that explains a particular accounting system gives the author no rights under the copyright laws to prevent others from *using* the system, as long as no protectable expression from the book is copied. *Baker v. Selden*, 101 U.S. 99 (1879); *see also* 17 U.S.C. § 102(b) (“In no case does copyright protection . . . extend to any idea, procedure, process, system, method of operation, concept, principle, or discovery, regardless of the form in which it is described, explained, illustrated, or embodied in such work.”). Oracle’s Java language books and API specifications give Oracle no greater rights to prevent implementation by others of the APIs using original code.

This principle applies equally in the computer context. In *Lotus Development Corp. v. Borland Int’l, Inc.*, the court reversed a summary judgment against a defendant that developed a competing program that copied the words and structure of Lotus’s menu command hierarchy in its spreadsheet program (but not the underlying source code). 49 F.3d 807 (1st Cir. 1995), *aff’d by an evenly divided court*, 516 U.S. 233 (1996). The court found the menu command hierarchy to be functional and uncopyrightable. *Id.*

In so holding, the court concluded that “the Lotus menu command hierarchy is an uncopyrightable ‘method of operation.’” *Id.* at 815. The court reasoned that it would be “absurd” to require every software provider to create different methods for performing each function in a program, which would require users to learn a multitude of different ways to, for example, print

1 files. *Id.* at 817-18. “The fact that there may be many different ways to operate a computer
 2 program, or even many different ways to operate a computer program using a set of
 3 hierarchically arranged command terms, does not make the actual method of operation chosen
 4 copyrightable; it still functions as a method for operating the computer and as such is
 5 uncopyrightable.” *Id.* at 818; *see also* 17 U.S.C. § 102(b) (method of operation is unprotectable
 6 “regardless of the form in which it is described, explained, illustrated, or embodied”).

7 The same reasoning applies to APIs for a programming language. *See* Astrachan Decl.,
 8 Ex. 1 ¶¶ 91-98 (explaining why the Java language APIs are methods of operation). By providing
 9 Android API packages addressing many of the same common methods that are provided by
 10 Oracle’s Java language API packages, Google has ensured that programmers using the Java
 11 language need not learn a new way to call these methods when writing programs for both the
 12 Java and the Android platforms. *See id.* ¶¶ 129-33. For example, to make use of the
 13 functionalities of the `java.lang.Math` class in the `java.lang` API package, a programmer would use
 14 the appropriate method name from the `java.lang.Math` class, such as “`sqrt()`,” to calculate the
 15 square root of a number. *Id.* ¶ 25. When the program is run by the user, the underlying platform
 16 will then perform the “`sqrt()`” functionality and return the appropriate data. *Id.* This is no
 17 different from executing a menu command to perform a spreadsheet function. *See Lotus*, 49 F.3d
 18 at 816 (“If specific words are essential to operating something, then they are part of a ‘method of
 19 operation’ and, as such, are unprotectable.”). Oracle has not even tried to allege that the
 20 underlying program logic in Android that *performs* this function was copied from the Asserted
 21 Works. *See supra*, Part II.D. It would be “absurd” to require that Android use, for example,
 22 different names than Oracle did for common mathematical methods, or for Android to group
 23 mathematical methods in different packages than Oracle did. “[F]orcing the user to cause the
 24 computer to perform the same operation in a different way ignores Congress’s direction in
 25 § 102(b) that ‘methods of operation’ are not copyrightable.” *Lotus*, 49 F.3d at 818.

26 Similarly, in *Mitel, Inc. v. Iqtel, Inc.*, 896 F. Supp. 1050, 1055-56 (D. Colo. 1995), *aff’d*,
 27 124 F.3d 1366 (10th Cir. 1997), the court held that command codes that served as a user
 28 interface by which technicians activated various functions of a call controller were unprotectable

1 methods of operation. “If, arguably, the command codes are considered part of the computer
 2 program in the call controller then their sole purpose is to provide access to the functions
 3 available in the call controller. Thus, they provide the means to access or operate the program
 4 contained in the software.” *Id.* at 1055. Like the command codes in *Mitel*, the Java language
 5 APIs at issue constitute unprotectable methods of operation. At their most abstract level, their
 6 purpose is to provide access to common functions of language that are frequently used by
 7 programmers consistent with a published and familiar Java language API specification. *See*
 8 Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶¶ 129-33.

9 The purpose of the Copyright Act is “[t]o promote the Progress of Science and useful
 10 Arts” U.S. CONST. art. I, § 8, cl. 8. To accomplish this goal, others must be allowed “to
 11 build freely upon the ideas and information conveyed by a work.” *Feist*, 499 U.S. at 350. As the
 12 *Lotus* court recognized, “[i]n the context of methods of operation, . . . ‘building’ requires the use
 13 of the precise method of operation already employed; otherwise, ‘building’ would require
 14 dismantling, too.” 49 F.3d at 818; *see also Sega*, 977 F.2d at 1522 (citing § 102(b) for the
 15 proposition that “functional requirements for compatibility” are not protected by copyright).¹⁶ It
 16 is undisputed that the *program logic* (other than elements of the 12 files addressed below in
 17 Part III.B) for the Accused Packages was not copied. Because the *API specifications* are
 18 methods of operation, they are not protected by copyright.

19 **2. The API declarations are unprotectable *scenes a faire* or unprotectable under**
 20 **the merger doctrine.**

21 The allegedly copied elements of the Java language API packages are also not protectable
 22 because they are required for interoperability; they allow a program written in the Java
 23 programming language to run on the Android platform. Expression dictated by external factors,
 24 such as industry practices and standard techniques used to perform particular functions in a
 25 specific computing environment, is unprotectable *scene a faire* or unprotectable under the
 26 merger doctrine, which precludes copyright protection for expression in which the underlying

27 ¹⁶ Notably, in other products, Sun and Oracle have implemented other companies’ APIs in
 28 order to increase compatibility of the Sun and Oracle products with those of those other
 companies. *See Astrachan Decl.*, Ex. 1 ¶¶ 62-90.

1 idea and the expression merge. *See Computer Assocs. Int'l, Inc. v. Altai*, 982 F.2d 693, 709-10
 2 (2d Cir. 1992).

3 Because computer programs are essentially “utilitarian” in nature, *see Sega*, 977 F.2d at
 4 1524, these external factors are prominent and will render unprotectable elements of a program
 5 dictated by compatibility¹⁷ requirements, industry demands, or widely accepted programming
 6 practices. *Sega*, 977 F.2d at 1524. This is because “in many instances it is virtually impossible
 7 to write a program to perform particular functions in a specific computing environment without
 8 employing standard techniques.” *Computer Assocs.*, 982 F.2d at 709 (quoting 3 MELVILLE B.
 9 NIMMER & DAVID NIMMER, NIMMER ON COPYRIGHT § 13.03[F][3]); *see also id.* at 708 (in view
 10 of desire to create programs that meet users’ needs efficiently, “the applicability of the merger
 11 doctrine to computer programs becomes compelling”); *Lexmark Int’l, Inc. v. Static Control*
 12 *Components, Inc.*, 387 F.3d 522, 535-36 (6th Cir. 2004) (programming efficiency “figures
 13 prominently in the copyrightability of computer programs”).

14 Courts have routinely emphasized that compatibility is a legitimate aim, and can override
 15 claims for infringement under either the *scenes a faire* or fair use doctrines. *E.g., Bateman*, 79
 16 F.3d at 1547; *Baystate Techs. v. Bentley Sys.*, 946 F. Supp. 1079, 1087-90 (D. Mass. 1996);
 17 *Mitel*, 896 F. Supp. at 1055-56. In *Baystate*, the plaintiff sued Bentley, a competing CAD
 18 program developer, contending that Bentley had infringed Baystate’s rights in the CADKEY
 19 source code, the Part File Tool Kit source code and the Part File Tool Kit documentation. 946 F.
 20 Supp. at 1085-86. The Part File Tool Kit consisted of definitions or header files, a library of
 21 executable files, and documentation that described the organization of the file data structure and
 22 descriptions of the access functions included in the library of executable files, and allowed a user
 23 or third party developer to read and write the data files into a non-CADKEY program. *Id.* at
 24 1083. Bentley’s contractor admitted that it “referred” to the Tool Kit documentation in

25
 26 ¹⁷ “[I]f manufacturer ‘B’ would like to design a computer that can use software designed for
 27 a computer manufactured by ‘A,’ B’s operating system interface must match that of
 28 manufacturer A. Without that compatibility, the software designed for A’s machine will not
 function on B’s.” *Bateman v. Mnemonics, Inc.*, 79 F.3d 1532, 1546 (11th Cir. 1996); *see also id.*
 at 1537 n.11 (explaining key terms and concepts involved in software copyright cases, including
 “operating systems,” “application programs,” and “interfaces”).

1 developing a data translator that would permit the transfer of information between Baystate's
 2 CADKEY program and Bentley's CAD program. *Id.* at 1082-87. The court held that the names
 3 and organization of the data structures were not protectable and there was no infringement:

4 The product being developed is a data translator that is designed to "read" the data
 5 files of CADKEY. The process of "reading" the CADKEY data files requires that
 6 the elements contained within the data structures of the Translator be organized in
 7 the same manner as the elements in the data structures of CADKEY. Without
 8 such compatibility, the Translator would not function because it would "misread"
 9 the CADKEY data files.

10 *Id.* at 1088.

11 Similarly, the court in *Mitel* found the command codes at issue to be unprotectable *scènes*
 12 *a faire*. The court found that the "proclivities of technicians largely dictate the need to conform
 13 the command codes in order to have market accessibility." *Mitel*, 896 F. Supp. at 1055-56.
 14 Because Iqtel had copied the command codes for efficiency reasons (as "[t]echnicians who
 15 installed and programmed call controllers were accustomed to Mitel's command codes and
 16 expressed a reluctance to learn new codes"), use of those elements was dictated by external
 17 factors. *Id.* at 1053.

18 The similarities in the unprotected elements present in the Oracle Java language API
 19 packages and the Android Java language API packages, *e.g.*, the names of packages and methods
 20 and definitions, are there for one purpose and one purpose only: enabling programs written in the
 21 Java programming language to run on the Android platform. *See Astrachan Decl.*, Ex. 1 ¶¶ 129-
 22 33. If different names had been used for these interfaces in Android, existing code written in the
 23 Java programming language simply would not run properly and the programs would not
 24 function, and programmers writing new applications in the Java language for Android devices
 25 would have to learn new API names for methods they already knew. *See id.* ¶ 135. As in
 26 *Baystate*, where the names and organization of the data files used by the defendant had to be
 27 identical to those in plaintiff's program in order for defendant's translator to function correctly,
 28 the specifications for the APIs must be identical in order for programs written in the Java
 programming language to operate on Android devices. *See also* Paul GOLDSTEIN, GOLDSTEIN ON
 COPYRIGHT § 2.15.3, at 2:208 (3d ed. 2011) (identifying machine to machine, program to

1 program, and program to machine interface specifications as interfaces “in which design
2 consumes relatively few creative resources and no room for variation exists if one element is to
3 be able to interoperate with the other”).

4 The APIs at issue were implemented in order to provide experienced programmers with
5 an efficient, familiar method of performing the same basic operations. *See* Astrachan Decl.,
6 Ex. 1 ¶¶ 134-38 (discussing industry demand for compatibility). For example, as has already
7 been noted, for compatibility and standardization reasons, the “abs” function discussed earlier
8 has the following identical method declaration not only in Java and Android, but also in
9 Harmony and GNU Classpath. *Id.* ¶ 61. Indeed, both Harmony and GNU Classpath have
10 implemented the API packages that are the subject of Oracle’s infringement claim against
11 Google. In each case, the names of the packages and methods are the same, *id.*, so that
12 programmers need not resort to the “absurd” task of learning to perform the same operation in
13 different ways. While the program logic that performs the actions required by the APIs may be
14 (and in fact is) different, the names (or abbreviations), specifications for the APIs must be
15 identical to allow for interoperability. *Id.* ¶ 53.

16 **3. The Java language API package and method names are unprotectable as a**
17 **matter of law.**

18 Oracle has alleged that Google “copied” the names of the Java language APIs at issue.
19 But the names of the Java language API files, packages, classes, and methods are not protectable
20 as a matter of law. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 202.1(a) (“Words and short phrases such as names, titles and
21 slogans” are not subject to copyright). Moreover, the names merely describe the functionality of
22 the packages and methods, and/or otherwise are the result of customary programming practices.
23 Astrachan Decl. ¶ 7(b)-(f) & Ex. 1 ¶¶ 99-117, 120-22; *see also Merchant Transaction Sys., Inc.*
24 *v. Nelcela, Inc.*, No. CV 02-1954-PHX-MHM, 2009 WL 723001, at *12 (D. Ariz. March 18,
25 2009) (“Clearly, isolated field names ‘are not original, are within the public domain, and are not
26 entitled to individual protection.’”); *CMM Cable Rep, Inc. v. Ocean Coast Props.*, 97 F.3d 1504,
27 1519 (1st Cir. 1996) (“It is axiomatic that copyright law denies protection to ‘fragmentary words
28 and phrases’ and to ‘forms of expression dictated solely at functional considerations’ on the

1 grounds that these materials do not exhibit the minimal level of creativity necessary to warrant
 2 copyright protection.”); *Baystate*, 946 F. Supp. at 1088 (finding that “data structure names or,
 3 more specifically, the words and abbreviations used to describe the files contained within the
 4 data structures and the data structures themselves” were not protected by copyright because “the
 5 name of a file is typically related to its function”).

6 The names, methods, and contents of the Java language API packages reflect customary
 7 naming practices in the computer industry. For example, package names such as “java.io,”
 8 “java.util,” and “java.net” reflect industry shorthand for common functionality, namely
 9 input/output, utilities, and networking, respectively. Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶ 124. These
 10 packages with common names then, in turn, contain methods whose naming reflects industry
 11 custom and representation of the underlying functionality. Astrachan Decl. ¶ 7 (d)-(f) & Ex. 1
 12 ¶¶ 103-17. Some examples of function names that are very similar in Java and the pre-existing C
 13 and C++ languages as a result of their functionality and industry custom include: “char” to
 14 identify a data type holding a character; “int abs (int i)” to identify a function that returns the
 15 absolute value of a number; and “printf()” for a function that prints a string to an output device.
 16 Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶ 124. All of these names were used in at least the C language before
 17 they were used in Java. *Id.*; see also Astrachan Decl., Ex. 2 at 53 (“Java feels very familiar to
 18 many different programmers because Sun had a very strong tendency to prefer things that had
 19 been used a lot over things that just sounded like a good idea.”).

20 These are not the only examples; many of the “names” used in the Java language have
 21 been used by the industry for decades. For example, the C Reference Manual, written by Brian
 22 Kernighan, the inventor of the C programming language, and published in 1975, references “int,”
 23 “double” and “char”—all of which are used in Java. Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶ 125. “Bool”
 24 (which became “Boolean” in Java) dates back further, to at least 1968. *Id.*; see also *id.* ¶¶ 126-
 25 28; *Computer Assocs.*, 982 F.2d at 710 (“Closely related to the non-protectability of *scenes a*
 26 *faire*, is material found in the public domain. Such material is free for the taking and cannot be
 27 appropriated by a single author even though it is included in a copyrighted work,” citing *Brown*
 28 *Bag Software v. Symantec Corp.*, 960 F.2d 1465, 1473 (9th Cir. 1992), in affirming the district

1 court's finding that "[p]laintiffs may not claim copyright protection of an . . . expression that is,
2 if not standard, then commonplace in the computer software industry").

3 **4. Alternatively, any similarity between the works is a fair use.**

4 For much the same reasons that the elements of the Java language APIs at issue are
5 unprotectable, the inclusion of those elements in Android for the purpose of allowing third party
6 Java programmers to write compatible applications constitutes a fair use as a matter of law. *See*
7 *Bateman*, 79 F.3d at 1547 (relying on fair use as an alternative basis for non-infringement);
8 *Mitel*, 896 F. Supp. at 1056 ("Even assuming the command codes are copyrightable, Iqtel's use
9 of these same command codes constitutes a 'fair use' under the Act.") A finding of fair use can
10 be made on summary judgment and is especially appropriate where, as here, any alleged copying
11 serves a transformative purpose. *E.g., Kelly v. Arriba Soft Corp.*, 336 F.3d 811, 817-22 (9th Cir.
12 2003) (affirming summary judgment finding that defendant's use of thumbnails that copied
13 plaintiff's images and linked to the website where the image was stored was fair use).

14 The use of the same names and functional method declarations for the thirty-seven Java
15 language APIs serves the transformative purpose of allowing applications written in the Java
16 language to run on the Android platform. Section 107 of the Copyright Act lists several non-
17 exhaustive factors to be considered to determine fair use: (1) the purpose and character of the
18 use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for non-profit educational
19 purposes; (2) the nature of the copyrighted work; (3) the amount and substantiality of the portion
20 used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and (4) the effect of the use upon the
21 potential market for or value of the copyrighted work. *Sega*, 977 F.2d at 1521-22.

22 ***The character of the use:*** Where, as here, a use serves a transformative purpose,
23 summary judgment is appropriate. *See, e.g., Perfect 10, Inc. v. Amazon.com, Inc.*, 508 F.3d
24 1146, 1164 (9th Cir. 2007) ("A work is 'transformative' when the new work does not 'merely
25 supersede the objects of the original creation' but rather 'adds something new, with a further
26 purpose or different character, altering the first with new expression, meaning, or message,'"
27 citing *Campbell v. Acuff-Rose Music, Inc.*, 510 U.S. 569, 579 (1994)).

28 As discussed above, the names and method declarations of the Java language API

1 packages are used in Android for compatibility and standardization reasons, as part of the open
 2 source Android platform. Open source licensing has generally transformed what have
 3 historically been thought of as commercial uses, creating a new model of technology
 4 development that leverages public goods and participation. *See Sega*, 977 F.2d at 1523 (courts
 5 “are free to consider the public benefit resulting from a particular use”; “[p]ublic benefit need not
 6 be direct or tangible, but may arise because the challenged use serves a public interest”; finding
 7 fair use and concluding that “Accolade’s identification of the functional requirements for
 8 Genesis compatibility has led to an increase in the number of independently designed video
 9 game programs offered for use with the Genesis console”).

10 Moreover, the Ninth Circuit has specifically held that a computer program is
 11 transformative if it is developed for a new platform, even one that competes with that of the
 12 copyright owner. *See, e.g., Sony Computer Entm’t, Inc. v. Connectix Corp.*, 203 F.3d 596,
 13 606-07 (9th Cir. 2000). The court in *Sony* held it was a fair use for Connectix to reverse
 14 engineer the BIOS software that operates the Sony PlayStation console in order to create a
 15 competing program that emulated the functioning of the PlayStation and allowed PlayStation
 16 games to be played on a computer. *Id.* at 599, 608. In finding fair use, the *Sony* court concluded
 17 that the defendant’s product was transformative because it created a new product that was
 18 compatible with PlayStation games, “notwithstanding the similarity of uses and functions
 19 between the Sony PlayStation” and Connectix’s product. *Id.* at 606-07. Similarly, Google’s
 20 implementation of the Java language APIs at issue was transformative because it enabled
 21 programmers to develop applications written in the Java programming language to run on
 22 Android, a wholly new “smart phone” platform.

23 ***The nature of the copyrighted work:*** “To the extent that a work is functional or factual,
 24 it may be copied.” *Sega*, 977 F.2d at 1524, 1527 (concluding that computer programs are
 25 “essentially utilitarian” in nature and that under the Copyright Act, “if a work is largely
 26 functional, it receives only weak protection”). As discussed above, the APIs at issue serve an
 27 entirely functional purpose and were included in Android to enable interoperability.

28 ***The portion of the work used:*** The thirty-seven API packages identified by Oracle are

1 approximately one-quarter of the API packages in the Asserted Works. Within these packages
 2 and their implementations, only the names of the packages and methods were used by Google for
 3 compatibility reasons. It is undisputed (and Oracle has never alleged to the contrary) that the
 4 underlying source code *implementing* those packages and methods, which constitute the vast
 5 majority of that code—hundreds of thousands of lines, *see* Astrachan Decl. ¶ 7(h) & Ex. 1
 6 ¶ 143—was not used by Google. Instead, Google independently developed or obtained from a
 7 third party open source project the code that implemented these APIs. Because Google used
 8 only the portions of the API packages necessary for compatibility, this factor weighs in its favor.
 9 *See Kelly*, 336 F.3d at 820-21 (“If the secondary user only copies as much as is necessary for his
 10 or her intended use, then this factor will not weigh against him or her.”).

11 ***The effect upon the market for the copyrighted work.*** If anything, Android has
 12 contributed positively to the market for the copyrighted works by increasing the number of Java
 13 language developers. As Sun’s CEO Jonathan Schwartz said when Google released the Android
 14 SDK in 2007, “needless to say, Google and the Open Handset Alliance just strapped another set
 15 of rockets to the [Java] community’s momentum - and to the vision defining opportunity across
 16 our (and other) planets.” Kwun Decl., Ex. L. Rich Green, then Sun’s executive vice president of
 17 software, also said that Sun was “thrilled to have Google amplify the global momentum behind
 18 Java technology” *Id.*, Ex. M.

19 Moreover, even if Android’s use of these API elements was considered to be competitive
 20 with Oracle’s, the outcome is the same. *E.g., Sega*, 977 F.2d at 1523 (Accolade “sought only to
 21 become a legitimate competitor in the field of Genesis-compatible video games. Within that
 22 market, it is the characteristics of the game program as experienced by the user that determine
 23 the program’s commercial success. As we have noted, there is nothing in the record that
 24 suggests that Accolade copied any of those elements.”); *Kelly*, 336 F.3d at 821 (“A
 25 transformative work is less likely to have an adverse impact on the market of the original than a
 26 work that merely supersedes the copyrighted work”); *Sony*, 203 F.3d at 607 (recognizing that
 27 some economic loss by Sony as a result of the defendant’s competition does not compel a finding
 28 of no fair use; “Sony understandably seeks control over the market for devices that play games

1 Sony produces or licenses. The copyright law, however, does not confer such a monopoly.”).

2 Finally, like the uses of these same common elements by others such as Apache Harmony
3 and GNU Classpath, Android’s use of the Java language API names and method descriptions are
4 essential for compatibility. Their inclusion in Android could not have had any greater impact
5 than the existing use of these same functional elements by others already in the “market.”

6 ***Google’s use is a fair use.*** The limited and transformative nature of Google’s use of the
7 functional names and method descriptions of the APIs to make Android’s mobile platform
8 interoperable and compatible with Java applications and to further the efforts of third party
9 developers weighs heavily in favor of finding fair use. “In determining whether a challenged use
10 of copyrighted material is fair, a court must keep in mind the public policy underlying the
11 Copyright Act. . . . [T]he fundamental purpose of the Copyright Act [is] to encourage the
12 production of original works by protecting the expressive elements of those works while leaving
13 the ideas, facts, and functional concepts in the public domain for others to build on.” *Sega*, 982
14 F.2d at 1527; *see also Sony*, 203 F.3d at 608 (“The four statutory fair use factors must be
15 ‘weighed together, in light of the purposes of copyright,’” citing *Campbell*, 510 U.S. at 578);
16 *Perfect 10*, 508 F.3d at 1166, 1168 (“‘the more transformative the new work, the less will be the
17 significance of other factors, like commercialism, that may weigh against a finding of fair use,’”
18 quoting *Campbell*, 510 U.S. at 579; finding fair use where Google’s thumbnails were
19 transformative and there was no proof of harm to Perfect 10’s market); *Kelly*, 336 F.3d at 818
20 (applying same principle).

21 **B. The alleged similarities in the remaining 12 files are *de minimis* in the context of the**
22 **over 9,500 files in the Asserted Works, and the over 50 thousand files in Android.**

23 *De minimis* acts of copying are not actionable. *Newton v. Diamond*, 388 F.3d 1189,
24 1192-93 (9th Cir. 2004). Where the only similarity is as to “nonessential matters,” the copying is
25 *de minimis*. *See id.* at 1195 (quoting 4 MELVILLE B. NIMMER & DAVID NIMMER, NIMMER ON
26 COPYRIGHT § 13.03[A][2], at 13-48). Where a defendant copies only “a portion of the plaintiff’s
27 work exactly or nearly exactly . . . the dispositive question is whether the copying goes to trivial
28 or substantial elements.” *Id.* That substantiality is judged by “considering the qualitative and

quantitative significance of the copied portion in relation to the *plaintiff's work as a whole*.” *Id.* (emphasis added).

The twelve Accused Files that Oracle contends contain Oracle source code or other material allegedly copied from the Asserted Works cannot support a finding of infringement. First, even assuming for purposes of this motion that the Accused Files contain copied Oracle material, that copying is quantitatively miniscule, comprising less than 750 lines of comments and code out of 2.8 *million* lines of code in the Asserted Works as a whole, and 12 files out of more than 9,500 files in the Asserted Works as a whole. Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶ 150.

Second, the allegedly copied lines are qualitatively insignificant. Eight of the files (files provided by an independent contractor to Google, which have since been removed from the Android platform) are simple test files that do not have any effect on the code that ships on Android devices, and are never present on Android devices. Bornstein Decl. ¶ 8; Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶¶ 160-68. In two other files, also provided by the independent contractor, the allegedly copied lines are only in the *comments* (which also have since been removed), and those comments are in any event are largely descriptive and functional. Bornstein Decl. ¶ 9; Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶¶ 169-77. As to these two files, any alleged copying has no effect on the code in shipped devices because comments do not change the code that results from a programming file. Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶ 171. The final two files both contain, as part of hundreds of lines of code, the same nine lines similar to code in the Asserted Works. *Id.* ¶ 152. Those nine lines¹⁸ implement a mundane task that, far from being the heart of the Asserted Works,¹⁹ represent a utilitarian function that performs a simple “sanity check” to make sure that certain variables are “in bounds.” *Id.* ¶¶ 153-66; *see Newton*, 388 F.3d at 1196 (expert testimony that the copied elements were “common, trite, and generic” sufficed to demonstrate that the elements were qualitatively insignificant).

Because the alleged similarities in the twelve files are both quantitatively and

¹⁸ See Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶ 152 (nine lines of code at issue).

¹⁹ Where the defendant copies the “heart” of the work, a relatively smaller taking, quantitatively speaking, may exceed *de minimis* use. *Fisher v. Dees*, 794 F.2d 432, 434 n.2 (9th Cir. 1986).

1 qualitatively insignificant, any alleged copying is *de minimis*, and thus not actionable. *MiTek*
 2 *Holdings, Inc. v. Arce Eng'g Co., Inc.*, 864 F. Supp. 1568, 1585 (S.D. Fla. 1994) (“Of the
 3 protectable elements that are substantially similar, the Court has found that their lack of
 4 importance in the context of the programs as a whole renders any copying by Arce to be *de*
 5 *minimis*.”), *aff’d*, 89 F.3d 1548, 1560 (11th Cir. 1996) (“We agree with the district court that the
 6 elements that were considered original and appropriated were not of such significance to the
 7 overall program to warrant an ultimate finding of substantial similarity and hence
 8 infringement.”)

9 **C. The documentation for the Android APIs is not substantially similar or virtually**
 10 **identical to the documentation for the Java language APIs.**

11 Any similarities between the machine-generated documentation for the Android APIs and
 12 that of the Java language APIs are due to either the similarities in the APIs themselves, or
 13 industry practices regarding how documentation is written. *See* Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶¶ 145-
 14 49. Just as two dictionaries will often have similar sounding definitions both because they are
 15 defining the same thing and due to external constraints (such as brevity and clarity) on how
 16 dictionary definitions are written, skilled technical writers writing about the same API are likely
 17 to come up with descriptions that appear very similar and contain very similar descriptions of the
 18 critical features. *Id.* ¶¶ 146-48. Given the substantial unprotected elements in the documentation
 19 (such as the API method declarations), the “virtual identity” standard applies here. *Apple*, 35
 20 F.3d at 1439. No reasonable jury could find infringement based on the Android API
 21 documentation.

22 **D. Any claim based on Oracle’s selection and arrangement of allegedly copied elements**
 23 **must be evaluated under the “virtual identity” standard, and Oracle cannot**
 24 **establish infringement under that standard.**

25 Finally, any residual claim of infringement based on the selection or arrangement of
 26 allegedly copied elements must also fail. Here, the method declarations, package names, and the
 27 rest of the API specifications are unprotectable, as discussed above. *See also* Astrachan Decl.,
 28 Ex. 1 ¶¶ 48-51, 118-19. Any remaining allegedly copied material (i.e. the portions of the twelve
 Accused Files) is, as explained above, *de minimis*. On these facts, “to the extent there is creative

1 expression left in how the works are put together, as a whole they can receive only limited
 2 protection.” *Apple*, 35 F.3d at 1439. This means that “illicit copying could occur only if the
 3 *works as a whole* are virtually identical.” *Id.* at 1447 (emphasis added).

4 Far from being virtually identical to the Asserted Works as a whole, the vast majority of
 5 the Android platform is *different* from the Java platform. Oracle has not even tried to claim that
 6 the Android APIs derive from more than about one-quarter of the API packages in the Asserted
 7 Works. Moreover, Android includes a host of elements, such as the Dalvik VM and a Linux
 8 kernel, that are not part of the Java platform. Astrachan Decl., Ex. 1 ¶¶ 140-42; *see also*
 9 Astrachan Decl. ¶ 7(h)-(i) & Ex. 1 ¶¶ 143-44. Because the “works as a whole” are not virtually
 10 identical, there is no copyright infringement.

11 **E. Oracle’s secondary infringement claims fail for lack of proof of direct infringement.**

12 Oracle cannot establish direct infringement for the reasons detailed above. Its
 13 inducement and contributory infringement claims must therefore also fail. *Subafilms, Ltd. v.*
 14 *MGM-Pathe Communications Co.*, 24 F.3d 1088, 1092 (9th Cir. 1994); *Matthew Bender & Co.*
 15 *v. West Publ’g Co.*, 158 F.3d 693, 706 (2d Cir. 1998).

16 **IV. CONCLUSION**

17 There are no genuine disputes of material fact relating to the controlling legal issues;
 18 Google is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. As Sun’s CTO testified to Congress in 1994,
 19 the lack of copyright protection for interface specifications drives “innovation, competition, and
 20 economic investment” and “[a]rguments to the contrary mix up the distinction between interface
 21 specifications and product implementations, in an attempt to retain or regain monopoly control to
 22 limit competition.” *See* Kwun Decl., Ex. G at 2. Google respectfully requests that the Court
 23 grant it summary judgment on Oracle’s Count VIII, for copyright infringement.

24 Dated: August 1, 2011

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 27 Attorneys for Defendant
 28 GOOGLE INC.